



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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**From:** Michael Terry  
Community Relations Specialist, 352-238-4801

**Re:** Update – Commercial Robbery - Dollar General - 3499 Mariner Boulevard

**Date:** August 23, 2019

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#### Update

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office was recently able identify the man responsible for committing three armed robberies earlier this year in Hernando County.

**Kevin Bellendorf, W/M DOB/12-19-1971**, was arrested on 08-08-19 by the Sumter County Sheriff's Office following an investigation into two recent armed robberies that occurred in Sumter County.

He was taken into custody without incident at a home in Lake Panasoffkee by the Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

Bellendorf is facing charges for the following armed robberies:

- Family Dollar Store – 10620 Northcliffe Boulevard/Spring Hill/Hernando County – 05-10-19
- Reliance Gas Station – 704 W. Main Street/Inverness/Citrus County – 05-13-19
- Dollar General – 125 W. Belt Avenue/Bushnell/Sumter County – 05-16-19
- Dollar General – 3449 Mariner Boulevard/Spring Hill/Hernando County – 05-21-19
- Family Dollar – 316 N. Main Street/Bushnell/ Sumter County – 06-11-19
- Dollar General – 3449 Mariner Boulevard/Spring Hill/Hernando County – 06-14-19

According to the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, Bellendorf confessed to committing six armed robberies that occurred in Sumter, Citrus and Hernando counties.

He is currently being held at the Sumter County Detention Center. He faces additional charges from Citrus and Hernando counties once his charges in Sumter County have been resolved.

## Original Information

On 06-14-19 just before 8:15 p.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the Dollar General, located at 3499 Mariner Boulevard in Spring Hill, regarding a Commercial Robbery.

Clerks advised that a white male wearing a black hoodie and dark colored shorts entered the store and walked to the rear, where he placed the hoodie over his head. With the hoodie over his head, the male walked back to the front of the store and approached the registers. Telling the clerks he had a firearm, the male then demanded money from within the cash drawers.

Once he obtained the money, the male fled from the store on foot into the northern parking lot, where it is believed he entered a green SUV, possibly a Toyota.

Witnesses advised the green SUV had damage to the passenger's side front end. The green SUV was last seen on Portillo Road, headed toward Mariner Boulevard.

Deputies arrived on scene within 80 seconds.

Numerous patrol deputies, K-9 teams, and the HCSO Aviation Unit converged on the area in an attempt to locate the suspect/suspect's vehicle. Traffic Stops were conducted on similar vehicles; however, the suspect/suspect's vehicle was not located.

The investigation remains active, with detectives following up on various leads.

If anyone has information on this Commercial Robbery or any of the other five Commercial Robberies that have occurred in Citrus County (1), Hernando County (2), or Sumter County (2), please contact Major Case detectives at the Hernando County Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830.

If you would like to remain anonymous – Please call Hernando County Crime Stoppers at 1-866-990-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip via the internet at <http://www.hernandocountycrimestoppers.com> . You will remain anonymous and also be eligible for a reward up to \$3,000 cash!

### **The Office of Sheriff:**

**The Office of the Sheriff is established by the Florida Constitution. As a constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the exclusive authority to administer his or her agency and is responsible for preserving the peace throughout the entire county, carrying out the laws of the state, the orders of Florida courts, and the ordinances of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement and correctional officer of the county.**

Sheriff Al Nienhuis was initially appointed as the Sheriff of Hernando County by the Governor in January of 2011. He was then elected by the people of Hernando County in 2012, and remains accountable to them.